



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDER NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST  
937 NO. HARBOR DR.  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92132-0058

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
COMNAVREGSWINST 5820.3E  
N05

10 DEC 2004

COMNAVREGSW INSTRUCTION 5820.3E

Subj: MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED TO NAVAL PERSONNEL AND OTHER  
BENEFICIARIES CONFINED IN MEXICAN PENAL INSTITUTIONS

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5820.4G  
(b) COMNAVREGSWINST 5820.2E

1. Purpose. To provide guidance concerning medical care of naval personnel and other beneficiaries confined in Mexican penal institutions.

2. Cancellation. COMNAVREGSWINST 5820.3D

3. Scope. This instruction applies to personnel attached to Commander, Naval Medical Center (COMNAVMEDECEN), San Diego, who provide medical care to naval personnel and other eligible beneficiaries confined in Mexico.

4. Background. The issue of medical care for naval personnel and other beneficiaries held in Mexican penal institutions can be critical. Occasionally, prisoners are ill or injured upon arrival at a Mexican prison or jail and require immediate medical care. The preferred course of action is to have them transferred to an American treatment facility as soon as possible, but this does not always occur.

5. Action

a. Per references (a) and (b), COMNAVMEDECEN will assign a medical officer to provide medical treatment for active duty naval personnel and other eligible beneficiaries held in a Mexican prison or jail. Physician assistants and nurse practitioners may be assigned to assist in providing this care.

b. The point of contact for obtaining medical services for the ill or injured naval personnel or eligible beneficiaries held in the Mexican penal system is the Officer Of the Day (OOD) for COMNAVMEDECEN who may be reached at (619) 532-6400.

c. The medical officer is responsible for evaluating the medical condition of the ill or injured person to determine whether he or she should be moved to a more suitable medical facility.

(1) For service members or eligible beneficiaries held in a Mexican prison or jail in the San Diego and El Centro geographic areas, medical clinic personnel from COMNAVMEDECEN San Diego will be guided by Commander, Navy Region Southwest (CNRSW) directives.

(2) For service members or eligible beneficiaries held in a Mexican prison or jail in the Yuma, Arizona geographic area, branch medical clinic personnel from Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma will be guided by MCAS Yuma directives.

d. Translator services will be coordinated by shore patrol and border patrol liaison.

e. Shore patrol and border patrol liaisons will also provide transportation for medical personnel to and from a prison or jail where a service member or eligible beneficiary is confined.

6. Reports. U.S. military personnel, civilian employees, and dependents confined in Mexican penal institutions will be visited at least every 30 days. Whenever a medical officer conducts a special or periodic visit to naval personnel and others confined in Mexican penal institutions, the medical officer should assist in the preparation of a visitation report and report on the health and welfare of the prisoners visited. Visitation reports consistent with subparagraph 3-4(c) of reference (a) shall be submitted to the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) at CNRSW (Code N05) as soon as practicable after the visitation.



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